CLAIMS

1. A radio communication system comprising a primary station and a plurality of secondary stations, the system having a communication channel between the primary station and a secondary station, the channel comprising an uplink and a downlink control channel for transmission of control information, and a data channel for the transmission of data, wherein power control means are provided for adjusting the power of the control and data channels and means are provided for delaying the initial transmission of the data channel until after the initial transmission of the control channels.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the data channel is an uplink data channel.

3. A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is predetermined.

4. A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is sufficient to enable the power control means to have substantially corrected the difference between initial and target power levels in the control channels.

5. A primary station for use in a radio communication system having a communication channel between the primary station and a secondary station, the channel comprising an uplink and a downlink control channel for transmission of control information, and a data channel for the transmission of data, wherein power control means are provided for adjusting the power of the control and data channels and means are provided for delaying the initial transmission of the data channel until after the initial transmission of the control channels.

6. A primary station as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is predetermined.

7. A primary station as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is sufficient to enable the power control means to have substantially corrected the difference between initial and target power levels in the control channels.

8. A secondary station for use in a radio communication system having a communication channel between the secondary station and a primary station, the channel comprising an uplink and a downlink control channel for transmission of control information, and a data channel for the transmission of data, wherein power control means are provided for adjusting the power of the control and data channels and means are provided for delaying the initial transmission of the data channel until after the initial transmission of the control channels.

9. A secondary station as claimed in claim 8, characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is predetermined.

10. A secondary station as claimed in claim 8, characterised in that the delay in transmission of the data channel is sufficient to enable the power control means to have substantially corrected the difference between initial and target power levels in the control channels.

11. A method of operating a radio communication system comprising a primary station and a plurality of secondary stations, the system having a communication channel between the primary station and a secondary station, the channel comprising an uplink and a downlink control channel for transmission of control information, and a data channel for the transmission of data, and at least one of the primary and secondary stations having power control means for adjusting the power of the control and data channels, the

method comprising delaying the initial transmission of the data channel until after the initial transmission of the control channels.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, characterised by the delay in transmission of the data channel being predetermined.

add B1